

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/005239

|   |  |  |  |  |                       |
|---|--|--|--|--|-----------------------|
| <b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b><br>IPC 7 C12N9/90 C12P41/00 C12Q1/533 C12Q1/34 C12N15/61<br>C12N5/10 C12N15/63   |  |  |  |  |                       |
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC   |  |  |  |  |                       |
| <b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b><br>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)<br>IPC 7 C12N C12O   |  |  |  |  |                       |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched   |  |  |  |  |                       |
| Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)<br><b>EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, EMBASE, PAJ, WPI Data, CHEM ABS Data, Sequence Search</b>  |  |  |  |  |                       |
| <b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>   |  |  |  |  |                       |
| Category *  | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   |  |  |  | Relevant to claim No. |
| Y   | WO 01/23582 A (DEGUSSA ; UNIV STUTTGART (DE); ROCHE DIAGNOSTICS GMBH (DE))<br>5 April 2001 (2001-04-05)<br>the whole document<br>-----<br>EP 1 188 826 A (AJINOMOTO KK)<br>20 March 2002 (2002-03-20)<br>the whole document<br>----- |  |  |  | 1-4                   |
| Y   |  |  |  |  | 1-4                   |
|   |  |  |  |  | -/-                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.  |  |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex. |  |                       |
| <b>* Special categories of cited documents :</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</li> <li>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</li> <li>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</li> <li>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</li> <li>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</li> </ul>  |  |  |  |  |                       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</li> <li>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</li> <li>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</li> <li>"&amp;" document member of the same patent family</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |                       |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search   | Date of mailing of the international search report   |  |  |  |                       |
| 27 October 2004   | 21.02.05.  |  |  |  |                       |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA<br>European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2<br>NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk<br>Tel: (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.<br>Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016  | Authorized officer<br><br>Valcarcel, R   |  |  |  |                       |

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Y          | SIEMANN M ET AL: "A D-SPECIFIC HYDANTOIN AMIDOHYDROLASE: PROPERTIES OF THE METALLOENZYME PURIFIED FROM ARTHROBACTER CRYSTALLOPHOIETES"<br>JOURNAL OF MOLECULAR CATALYSIS. B,<br>ENZYMATICS, ELSEVIER, AMSTERDAM, NL,<br>vol. 6, no. 3, 11 March 1998 (1998-03-11),<br>pages 387-397, XP001104526<br>ISSN: 1381-1177<br>the whole document<br>----- | 2-4                   |
| A          | US 2003/059816 A1 (ROYER SYLVAIN ET AL)<br>27 March 2003 (2003-03-27)<br>the whole document<br>-----   | 1-4                   |

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### Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

### Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple Inventions in this International application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-4

#### Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-4

Screening processes according to claims 1-4  
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2. claims: 5-8

Process for the preparation of improved hydantoin racemases according to claim 5, polypeptides obtainable by the process of claim 5 (or nucleic acids encoding said polypeptides), and uses of said molecules.  
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3. claims: 9-14 (all partially)

Hydantoin racemases containing in the position 79 an amino acid as defined in claim 9; polynucleotide sequences encoding said racemases; whole cell catalysts, vectors and microorganisms comprising said sequences; and primers for the preparation of said polynucleotides.  
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4. claims: 9-14 (all partially)

Hydantoin racemases containing the consensus sequence as defined in claim 10; polynucleotide sequences encoding said racemases; whole cell catalysts, vectors and microorganisms comprising said sequences; and primers for the preparation of said polynucleotides.  
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5. claims: 9-14(all partially)

Hydantoin racemases encoded by the polynucleotide sequences SEQ ID NOS: 3, 5, 7, or 9; whole cell catalysts, vectors and microorganisms comprising said sequences; and primers for the preparation of said polynucleotides.  
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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| Patent document cited in search report |    | Publication date | Patent family member(s)  | Publication date   |
|--|----|------------------|--|--|
| WO 0123582                             | A  | 05-04-2001       | US 6713288 B1<br>AU 7281700 A<br>WO 0123582 A1<br>EP 1216304 A1<br>JP 2003527095 T<br>US 2003175910 A1 | 30-03-2004<br>30-04-2001<br>05-04-2001<br>26-06-2002<br>16-09-2003<br>18-09-2003 |
| EP 1188826                             | A  | 20-03-2002       | EP 1188826 A2<br>JP 2002330784 A<br>US 2002102713 A1   | 20-03-2002<br>19-11-2002<br>01-08-2002   |
| US 2003059816                          | A1 | 27-03-2003       | WO 03052374 A2   | 26-06-2003   |